[XXXVth Year.] THE [No. 1708.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1779.

CIRCULAR LETTER *from the* CONGRESS *of the* UNITED STATES *of* AMERICA *to their* CONSTITUENTS.

Friends and Fellow-Citizens!

IN governments raised on the generous principles of equal liberty, where the rulers of the ſtate are the ſervants of the people, and not the maſters of thoſe from whom they derive authority; it is their duty to inform their fellow citizens of the ſtate of their affairs, and by evincing the propriety of public meaſures, lead them to unite the influence of inclination to the force of legal obligation in rendering them ſucceſsful. This duty ceaſes not, even in times of the moſt perfect peace, order and tranquillity, when the ſafety of the commonwealth is neither endangered by force or ſeduction from abroad, or by faction, treachery, or miſguided ambition from within. At this ſeaſon, therefore, we find ourſelves in a particular manner impreſſed with a ſenſe of it, and can no longer forbear calling your attention to a ſubject much miſrepreſented, and miſconſtruing which dangerous as well as erroneous opinions have been held and propagated: we mean your finances.

The ungrateful deſpotiſm and inordinate luſt of domination which marked the unnatural deſigns of the Britiſh king and his venal parliament to enſlave the people of America, reduced you to the neceſſity of either aſſerting your rights by arms, or ingloriouſly paſſing under the yoke. You nobly preferred war. Armies were then to be raiſed, paid and ſupplied: money became neceſſary for theſe purpoſes. Of your own there was but little; and of no nation in the world could you then borrow. The little that was ſpread among you could be collected only by taxes, and to this end regular governments were eſſential; of theſe you were alſo deſtitute. So circumſtanced, you had no other reſource but the natural value and wealth of your fertile country. Bills were iſſued on the credit of this fund, and your faith was pledged for their redemption. Soon after a conſiderable number of theſe bills had circulated, loans were ſolicited, and offices for the purpoſe eſtabliſhed. Thus a national debt was unavoidably created, and the amount of it is as follows:

	Dollars.
Bills emitted and circulating,	159,948,880
Monies borrowed before the 1ſt of March 1778, the intereſt of which is payable in France,	7,545,196⅔
Monies borrowed ſince the 1ſt of March 1778, the intereſt of which is payable here,	26,128,909
Money due abroad, not exactly known—the balances not having been tranſmitted, ſuppoſed to be about	4,000,000

For your further ſatisfaction we ſhall order a particular account of the ſeveral emiſſions, with the times limited for their redemption, and alſo of the ſeveral loans, the intereſt allowed on each, and the terms aſſigned for their payment, to be ſeparated and publiſhed.

The taxes have as yet brought into the treaſury no more than 3,027,360, ſo that all the monies ſupplied to congreſs by the people of America, amount to no more than 36,761,665 dollars and ſeventy-ſixths, that being the ſum of the loans and taxes received. Judge then of the neceſſity of emiſſions, and learn from whom and from whence that neceſſity aroſe.

We are alſo to inform you, that on the firſt day of September inſtant we reſolved "that we would on no account whatever emit more bills of credit than to make the whole amount of ſuch bills two hundred millions of dollars, and at the ſame time emitted and in circulation amounted to 159,948,880 dollars, and the ſum of 40,051,120 dollars remained to compleat the two hundred millions above mentioned, we on the third day of September inſtant further reſolved, that we would emit ſuch part only of the ſaid ſum of 40,051,120 dollars as ſhould be abſolutely neceſſary for public exigencies before adequate ſupplies could otherwiſe be obtained, relying for both ſupplies on the exertions of the ſeveral ſtates."

Exclaſive of the great and ordinary expences incident to the war, the depreciation of the currency has ſo ſwelled the prices of every neceſſary article, and of conſequence made ſuch additions to the uſual amount of expenditures, that very conſiderable ſupplies muſt be immediately provided by loans and taxes; and we unanimouſly declare it to be eſſential to the welfare of theſe ſtates that the taxes already called for be paid into the continental treaſury by the time recommended for that purpoſe. It is alſo highly proper that you ſhould extend your views beyond that period, and prepare in ſeaſon as well for bringing your reſpective quotas of troops into the field early the next campaign, as for providing the ſupplies neceſſary in the courſe of it. We ſhall take care to appriſe you from time to time of the ſtate of the treaſury, and to recommend the proper meaſures for ſupplying it. To keep your battalions full, to encourage loans and to aſſeſs your taxes with prudence, collect them with firmneſs, and pay them with punctuality, is all that will be requiſite on your part. Further ways and means of providing for the public exigencies are now under conſideration, and will ſoon be laid before you.

Having thus given you a ſhort and plain ſtate of your debt, and pointed out the neceſſity of punctuality in furniſhing the ſupplies already required, we ſhall proceed to make a few remarks on the depreciation of the currency, to which we entreat your attention.

The depreciation of bills of credit is always either natural or artificial, or both. The latter is our caſe. The moment the ſum in circulation exceeded what was neceſſary as a medium in commerce, it began and continued to depreciate in proportion as the amount of the ſurplus encreaſed; and that proportion would hold good until the ſum emitted ſhould become ſo great as nearly to equal the value of the capital or ſtock, on the credit of which the bills were iſſued. Suppoſing, therefore, that 30,000,000 was neceſſary for a circulating medium, and that 160,000,000 had iſſued, the natural depreciation is but little more than as five to one: but the actual depreciation exceeds that proportion, and that exceſs is artificial. The natural depreciation is to be removed only by leſſening the quantity of money in circulation. It will regain its primitive value whenever it ſhall be reduced to the ſum neceſſary for a medium of commerce. This is only to be effected by loans and taxes.

The artificial depreciation is a more ſerious ſubject, and merits minute inveſtigation. A diſtruſt (however occaſioned) entertained by the maſs of the people either in the *ability* or *inclination* of the United States to redeem their bills is the cauſe of it. Let us enquire how far reaſon will juſtify a diſtruſt in the *ability* of the United States.

The ability of the United States muſt depend on two things: firſt, the ſucceſs of the preſent revolution, and ſecondly, on the ſufficiency of the natural wealth, value and reſources of the country.

That the time has been when honeſt men might, without being chargeable with timidity, have doubted the ſucceſs of the preſent revolution, we admit; but that period is paſſed. The independence of America is now as fixed as fate, and the petulant efforts of Britain to break it down are as vain and fruitleſs as the raging of the waves which beat againſt their cliffs. Let theſe who are ſtill afflicted with theſe doubts conſider the character and condition of our enemies. Let them remember that we are contending againſt a kingdom crumbling into pieces; a nation without public virtue; and a people ſold to and betrayed by their own repreſentatives; againſt a prince governed by his paſſions and a miniſtry without confidence or wiſdom; againſt armies half paid and generals half truſted; againſt a government equal only to plans of plunder, conflagration and murder—a government by the moſt impious violations of the rights of religion, juſtice, humanity and mankind, courting the vengeance of Heaven and revolting from the protection of Providence. Againſt the fury of theſe enemies you made ſucceſsful reſiſtance, when ſingle, alone, and friendleſs, in the days of weakneſs and infancy, before your hands had been taught to war or your fingers to fight. And can there be any reaſon to apprehend that the Divine Diſpoſer of human events, after having ſeparated us from the houſe of bondage, and led us ſafe through a ſea of blood, towards the land of liberty and promiſe, will leave the work of our political redemption unfiniſhed, and either permit us to periſh in a wilderneſs of difficulties, or ſuffer us to be carried back in chains to that country of oppreſſion, from whoſe tyranny he hath mercifully delivered us with a ſtretched-out arm?

In cloſe alliance with one of the moſt powerful nations in Europe which has generouſly made our cauſe her own, in amity with many others, and enjoying the good will of all, what danger have we to fear from Britain? Inſtead of acquiring acceſſions of territory by conqueſt, the limits of her empire daily contract: her fleets no longer rule the ocean, nor are her armies invincible by land. How many of her ſtandards, wreſted from the hands of her champions, are among your trophies, and have graced the triumphs of your troops? and how great is the number of thoſe, who, ſent to bind you in fetters, have become your captives, and received their lives from your hands? In ſhort, whoever conſiders that theſe ſtates are daily encreaſing in power; that their armies have become veteran; that their governments, founded in freedom, are eſtabliſhed; that their fertile country and their affectionate ally furniſh them with ample ſuplies; that the Spaniſh monarch, well prepared for war, with fleets and armies ready for combat, and a treaſury overflowing with wealth, has entered the liſts againſt Britain; that the other European nations, often inſulted by her pride, and alarmed by the ſtrides of her ambition, have left her to her fate; that Ireland, wearied with her oppreſſions, is panting for liberty, and even Scotland diſpleaſed and uneaſy at her edicts;——Whoever conſiders theſe things, inſtead of doubting the iſſue of the war, will rejoice in the glorious, the ſure and certain proſpect of ſucceſs.

This point being eſtabliſhed, the next queſtion is whether the natural wealth, value and reſource of the country will be equal to the payment of the debt?

Let us ſuppoſe for the ſake of argument, that at the concluſion of the war, the emiſſions ſhould amount to 200,000,000, that excluſive of ſupplies from taxes, which will not be inconſiderable, the loans ſhould amount to 100,000,000, then the whole national debt of the United States would be 300,000,000. There are at preſent 3,000,000 of inhabitants in the thirteen ſtates: three hundred million of dollars divided among three million of people would give to each perſon one hundred dollars: and is there an individual in America unable in the courſe of eighteen or twenty years to pay it again? Suppoſe the whole debt aſſeſſed, as it ought to be, on the inhabitants in proportion to their reſpective eſtates, what would then be the ſhare of the poorer people? Perhaps not ten dollars. Beſides, as this debt will not be payable immediately, but probably twenty years allotted for it, the number of inhabitants by that time in America will be far more than double their preſent amount. It is well known that the inhabitans of this country encreaſe almoſt in the ratio of compound intereſt. By natural population they doubled every twenty years, and how great may be the acceſſion of emigrants from other countries cannot be aſcertained. We have the higheſt reaſon to believe the number will be immenſe. Suppoſe that only ten thouſand ſhould arrive the firſt year after the war, what will thoſe ten thouſand with their families count in twenty years time?—Probably double the number. This obſervation applies with proportionable force to the emigrants of every ſucceſſive year. Thus you ſee great part of your debt will be payable not merely by the preſent number of inhabitants, but by that number ſwelled and encreaſed by the natural population of the preſent inhabitants, by multitudes of emigrants daily arriving from other countries, and by the natural population of thoſe ſucceſſive emigrants, ſo that every perſon's ſhare of the debt will be conſtantly diminiſhing by others coming in to pay a proportion of it.

Theſe are advantages which none but young countries enjoy. The number of inhabitants in every country in Europe remains nearly the ſame from one century to another. No country can produce more people than it can ſubſiſt, and as

ry country, if free and cultivated, will produce as many as it can maintain. Hence we may form some idea of the future population of these states. Extensive wildernesses, now scarcely known or explored, remain yet to be cultivated, and vast lakes and rivers, whose waters have for ages rolled in silence and obscurity to the ocean, are yet to hear the din of industry, become subservient to commerce, and boast delightful villas, gilded spires, and spacious cities rising on their banks.

Thus much for the number of persons to pay the debt. The next point is their *ability*. They who enquire how many millions of acres are contained only in the settled part of North America, and how much each acre is worth, will acquire very enlarged and yet very inadequate ideas of the value of this country. But those who will carry their enquiries further, and learn that we heretofore paid an annual tax to Britain of three millions sterling in the way of trade, and still grew rich; that our commerce was then confined to her; that we were obliged to carry our commodities to her market, and consequently to sell them at her price; that we were compelled to purchase foreign commodities at her stores, and on her terms, and were forbid to establish any manufactories incompatible with her views of gain; that in future the whole world will be open to us, and we shall be at liberty to purchase from those who will sell on the best terms, and to sell to those who will give the best prices; that as the country encreases in number of inhabitants and cultivation, the productions of the earth will be proportionably encreased, and the riches of the whole proportionably greater: whoever examines the force of these and similar observations, must smile at the ignorance of those who doubt the ability of the United States to redeem their bills.

Let it also be remembered that paper money is the only kind of money which cannot "make unto itself wings and fly away." It remains with us, it will not forsake us, it is always ready and at hand for the purpose of commerce or taxes, and every industrious man can find it. On the contrary, should Britain like Nineveh (and for the same reason) yet find mercy, and escape the storm ready to burst upon her, she will find her national debt in a very different situation. Her territory diminished, her people wasted, her commerce ruined, her monopolies gone, she must provide for the discharge of her immense debt by taxes to be paid in specie, in gold or silver, perhaps now buried in the mines of Mexico or Peru, or still concealed in the brooks and rivulets of Africa or Indostan.

Having shewn that there is no reason to doubt the ability of the United States to pay their debt, let us next enquire whether as much can be said for their inclination.

Under this head three things are to be attended to:

1st. Whether and in what manner the faith of the United States has been pledged for the redemption of their bills.

2d. Whether they have put themselves in a political capacity to redeem them—and

3d. Whether, admitting the two former propositions, there is any reason to apprehend a wanton violation of the public faith.

1st. It must be evident to every man who reads the journals of congress or looks at the face of one of their bills, that congress have pledged the faith of their constituents for the redemption of them. And it must be equally evident, not only that they had authority to do so, but that their constituents have actually ratified their acts, by receiving their bills, passing laws establishing their currency, and punishing those who counterfeit them. So that it may with truth be said that the people have pledged their faith for the redemption of them not only collectively by their representatives, but individually.

2d. Whether the United States have put themselves in a political capacity to redeem their bills, is a question which calls for more full discussion.

Our enemies, as well foreign as domestic, have laboured to raise doubts on this head. They argue that the confederation of the states remains yet to be perfected; that the union may be dissolved; congress be abolished, and each state resuming its delegated powers proceed in future to hold and exercise all the rights of sovereignty appertaining to an independent state. In such an event, say they, the continental bills of credit, created and supported by the union, would die with it. This position being assumed, they next proceed to assert this event to be probable, and in proof of it urge our divisions, our parties, our separate interests, distinct manners, former prejudices, and many other arguments equally plausible and equally fallacious. Examine this matter every purpose essential to the defence of these states in the progress of the present war, and necessary to the attainment of the objects of it, these states now are as fully, legally and absolutely confederated, as it is possible for them to be. Read the credentials of the different delegates who composed the congress in 1774, 1775, and part of 1776. You will find that they establish an union for the express purpose of opposing the oppressions of Britain and obtaining redress of grievances. On the 4th of July 1776, your representatives in congress, perceiving that nothing less than unconditional submission would satisfy our enemies, did in the name of the people of the thirteen united colonies declare them to be free and independent states, and "for the SUPPORT of that declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, did mutually pledge to each other their LIVES, their FORTUNES and their SACRED HONOUR." Was ever confederation more formal, more solemn or explicit? It has been expressly assented to and ratified by every state in the union.—Accordingly, for the direct SUPPORT of this declaration, that is for the support of the independence of these states, armies have been raised, and bills of credit emitted and loans made to pay and supply them. The redemption therefore of these bills, the payment of these debts, and the settlement of the accounts of the several states for expenditures or services for the common benefit and in this common cause, are among the objects of this confederation; and consequently while all or any of its objects remain unattained, it cannot, so far as it may respect such objects, be dissolved, consistent with the laws of God or man.

But we are persuaded, and our enemies will find, that our union is not to end here. They are mistaken when they suppose us kept together only by a sense of present danger. It is a fact which they only will dispute, that the people of these states were never so cordially united as at this day. By having been obliged to mix with each other, former prejudices have worn off, and their several manners become blended. A sense of common permanent interest, mutual affection (having been brethren in affliction,) the ties of consanguinity daily extending, constant reciprocity of good offices, similarity in language, in governments, and therefore in manners, the importance, weight and splendor of the union, all conspire in forming a strong chain of connection, which must for ever bind us together. The united provinces of the Netherlands and the united cantons of Switzerland became free and independent under circumstances very like ours: their independence has been long established, and yet their confederacies continue in full vigour. What reason can be assigned why our union should be less lasting? or why should the people of these states be supposed less wise than the inhabitants of those? You are not uninformed that a plan for a perpetual confederation has been prepared and that twelve of the thirteen states have already acceded to it. But enough has been said to shew that for every purpose of the present war, and all things incident to it, there does at present exist a perfect solemn confederation, and therefore that the states now are and always will be in political capacity to redeem their bills, pay their debts, and settle their accounts.

3d. Whether, admitting the ability and political capacity of the United States to redeem their bills, there is any reason to apprehend a wanton violation of the public faith?

It is with great regret and reluctance that we can prevail upon ourselves to take the least notice of a question which involves in it a doubt so injurious to the honour and dignity of America.

The enemy, aware that the strength of America lay in the union of her citizens, and the wisdom and integrity of those to whom they committed the direction of their affairs, have taken unwearied pains to disunite and alarm the people, to depreciate the abilities and virtue of their rulers, and to impair the confidence reposed in them by their constituents. To this end repeated attempts have been made to draw an absurd and fanciful line of distinction between the congress and the people, and to create an opinion and a belief that their interests and views were different and opposed. Hence the ridiculous tales, the invidious insinuations, and the whimsical suspicions that have been forged and propagated by disguised emissaries and traitors in the garb of patriots. Hence has proceeded the notable discovery that as the congress made the money they also can destroy it; and that it will exist no longer than they find it convenient to permit it. It is not surprising that in a free country, where the tongues and pens of such people are and must be licensed, such political heresies should be inculcated and diffused, but it is really astonishing that the mind of a single virtuous citizen in America should be influenced by them. It certainly cannot be necessary to mind you that your representatives here are chosen from among yourselves; that you ought to be acquainted with their several characters; that they are sent here to speak your sentiments, and that it is constantly in your power to remove such as do not. You surely are convinced that it is no more in their power to annihilate your money than your independence, and that any act of theirs for either of those purposes would be null and void.

We should pay an ill compliment to the understanding and honour of every true American were we to adduce many arguments to shew the baseness or bad policy of violating our national faith, or omitting to pursue the measures necessary to preserve it. A bankrupt faithless republic would be a novelty in the political world, and appear among reputable nations, like a common prostitute among chaste and respectable matrons. The pride of America revolts at the idea; her citizens know for what purpose these emissions were made, and have repeatedly plighted their faith for the redemption of them; they are to be found in every man's possession, and every man is interested in their being redeemed; they must therefore entertain a high opinion of American credulity, who suppose a people capable of believing, on due reflection, that all America will, against the faith, the honour and the interest of all America, be even prevailed upon to countenance, support or permit so ruinous, so disgraceful a measure. We are convinced that the efforts and arts of our enemies will not be wanting to draw us into this humiliating and contemptible situation. Impelled by malice, and the suggestions of chagrin and disappointment, at not being able to bend our necks to their yoke, they will endeavour to force or seduce us to commit this unpardonable sin, in order to subject us to the punishment due to it, and that we may thenceforth be a reproach and a by-word among the nations. Apprised of these consequences, knowing the value of national character, and impressed with a due sense of the immutible laws of justice and honour, it is impossible that America should think without horror of such an execrable deed.

If then neither our ability or inclination to discharge the public debt, are justly questionable, let our conduct correspond with this confidence, and let us rescue our credit from its present imputations. Had the attention of America to this object been unremitted, had taxes been seasonably imposed and collected, had proper loans been made, had laws been passed and executed for punishing those who maliciously endeavoured to injure the public credit; had these and many other things equally necessary been done, and had our currency, notwithstanding all these efforts, declined to its present degree of depreciation, our case would indeed have been deplorable. But as these exertions have not been made we may yet experience the good effects which naturally result from them. Our former negligences therefore should now animate us with hope, and teach us not to despair of removing by vigilance and application the evils which supineness and inattention have produced.

It has been already observed that in order to prevent the further natural depreciation of our bills we have resolved to stop the press, and to call upon you for supplies by loans and taxes. You are in capacity to afford them, and are bound by the strongest ties to do it. Leave us not therefore without supplies, nor let in that flood of evils which would follow from such a neglect. It would be an event most grateful to our enemies, and depend upon it they will redouble their artifices and industry to compass it. Be therefore upon your guard, and examine well the policy of every measure and the evidence of every report that may be proposed or mentioned to you before you adopt the one or believe the other. Recollect that it is the price of the liberty, the peace and the safety of yourselves and posterity, that now is required—*that* peace, liberty and safety, for the attainment and security of which you have so often and so solemnly declared your readiness to sacrifice your lives and fortunes. The war, though drawing fast to a successful issue, still rages. Disdain to leave the whole business of your defence to your ally. Be mindful that the brightest prospects may be clouded, and that prudence bids us be prepared for every event. Provide therefore for continuing your armies in the field till victory and peace shall lead them home, and avoid the reproach of permitting the currency to depreciate in your hands, when by yielding a part to taxes and loans, the whole might have been appreciated and preserved. Humanity as well as justice make this demand upon you, the complaints of ruined widows, and the cries of fatherless children, whose support has been placed in your hands and melted away, have doubtless reached

ou—take care that they aſcend no higher. ouſe therefore; ſtrive who ſhall do moſt for his ountry; rekindle that flame of patriotiſm which t the mention of diſgrace and ſlavery blazed throughout America, and animated all her citiens. Determine to finiſh the conteſt as you beran it, honeſtly and glorioufly.—Let it never be aid that America had no ſooner become indeendent than ſhe became inſolvent, or that her nfant glories and growing fame were obſcured nd tarniſhed by broken contracts and violated aith, in the very hour when all the nations of he earth were admiring and almoſt adoring the ſplendour of her riſing.

By the unanimous order of CONGRESS,
JOHN JAY, Preſident.
Philadelphia, Sept. 23, 1779.

NEWBERN, *Sept.* 6.

Since our laſt, arrived here the ſchooner John, captain Dames, from Cape François, who brings the following moſt important account:

That he ſailed from the cape in company with count d'Eſtaing's fleet, conſiſting of 23 ſail of the line, two 50 gun ſhips, and ten frigates, having on board 5000 troops, with a large fleet of merchantſhips, for the ſeveral ports in America. That he kept company with the fleet to the latitude of 23, and longitude 75, when he left them ſteering N. W. by W. and that it was reported in the fleet they were to join 12 ſail of Spaniſh line off Auguſtine. That the expedition on which they were going was kept a profound ſecret, but that it was moſt undoubtedly for this continent, as he left them ſo near, and ſteering for Georgia.

We expect every hour a farther account of this grand armament, which aſſuredly is to clear this continent of the preſent murdering ſavage crew that at preſent infeſt it.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Sept.* 25.

By an expreſs, on his way from Charles-Town, South-Carolina, to Philadelphia, we are informed, the French have landed 5000 men in Georgia, and blocked up all the Engliſh ſhips which are in that ſtate.

PHILADELPHIA, *Sept.* 28.

Extract of a letter from general Sullivan, dated Tioga, Auguſt 20, 1779.

"I have the pleaſure to enclose your excellency a copy of a letter from general Clinton, by which you will find that the much deſired junction will be formed to-morrow. I enclose you a copy of my orders to general Poor, who, in company with general Hand and 1000 choſen troops, have joined general Clinton. I hope, on Monday the 23d inſtant, to begin a rapid movement into the Indian country.

"I ſuppoſe the Indians muſt be collecting their force about French Catharine's or Conoſadago; but I am convinced, that no force they have can now injure us. General Clinton burnt a ſmall number of towns as he came down the river, which ſeemed to have been forſaken ſome time. Brandt was wounded in the foot at Minifink, and had arrived at Chemung before we burnt it; we took the mare he rode home, but he eſcaped, leaving her loaded with beans and corn: he is ſaid to be rendered unfit for ſervice for this campaign."

Copy of a letter from general Sullivan to general Waſhington, Newtown, Auguſt 30, 1779.

"I have the pleaſure to inform your excellency, that having formed the junction with general Clinton without loſs, we marched from Tioga the 26th in the afternoon; the rains had ſwelled the Cayuga ſo as to render our march to Chemung very difficult, as we had to ford the river twice in our rout. We arrived there in the evening of the 28th, and marched for the place early in the morning of the 29th; about 11 o'clock a meſſenger from major Parr (who commanded the rifle corps, an advance of the light troops of the army under general Hand) informed me, the enemy had (about a mile in front of the town) a very extenſive breaſt-work erected on a riſing ground, which commanded the road in which we were to paſs with our artillery, and which would enable them to fire upon our flank and front at the ſame time. This breaſt-work they had endeavoured to maſque in a very artful manner, and had concealed themſelves behind it in large numbers. I had before been appriſed of the enemy's having a very large encampment at that place. I found that the work was in a bend of the river, which, by turning northward, formed a ſemicircle. There was a deep brook in front of this work, over which the road paſſed and then turned off to the right, parallel to the courſe of the riſing ground upon which their works were conſtructed, which would enable them to flank the line of march of one column of our troops, had it advanced, without diſcovering the work. They had alſo poſted on a hill about one hundred and fifty rods in their rear, and conſiderably on their left, a ſtrong party, in order, as I ſuppoſe, to fall on our right flank, when we were engaged with the works in front, and to cover the retreat of the troops which occupied the works, in caſe they ſhould be cutted, and to take advantage of any diſorder which might appear among our troops in the purſuit. This hill was very advantageouſly formed for their purpoſe, as it terminated in a bluff point about a mile in the rear of their works, and about two hundred yards from the river, leaving a hollow way between the hill and the river, of about 150 yards, and ending on the north in a very narrow defile. This hollow way was clear of trees and buſhes, and was occupied by them as a place of encampment for part of their army. General Hand formed the light corps of the army in the wood within four hundred yards of their works. The rifle-men in his front kept ſkirmiſhing with the enemy, who frequently ſallied out and ſuddenly retired, appareatly with a view of drawing our men into the works which they ſuppoſed had not been diſcovered, for the growth upon the hill being pine, interſpeaſed with very low ſhrub oaks, and they having cut off oak ſhrubs and ſtuck them in the ground in front of their works, they had ſome occaſion to ſuppoſe that we ſhould not be able to diſtinguiſh them from thoſe growing on the eminence. General Hand remained at his poſt until I arrived with the main army. General Poor's brigade, which formed the right wing of the main army, diſplayed in the rear of general Hand's. General Maxwell's brigade, which formed the left wing, came a-breaſt with general Poor, and remained in column ready to act as occaſion might require.

"It was obſerved that there was another chain of hills terminating in a point rather in rear of our right, and about one mile diſtant from the right of our line. It was conjectured that the enemy had taken poſt upon one or both of the hills, in order to fall on our right and rear, when we attempted to attack their works. General Poor was therefore detached to gain the hill firſt deſcribed, and fall into the enemy's rear. Small reconnoitering parties were likewiſe detached to make diſcoveries at the other hill, and to give notice of any appearance of the enemy there; and ſtill to guard more effectually againſt any attempt from that quarter, general Clinton's brigade, which forms the ſecond line of the army, was ordered to turn off and follow in the rear of general Poor, to ſuſtain him, in caſe of neceſſity, or to form a line to oppoſe any force which might fall in his rear, or attempt to gain the flank or rear of the army. When a ſufficient ſpace of time was given to general Poor to gain the hill in their rear, our artillery was to announce our attack in front, which was to be made by general Hand's corps, ſupported by general Maxwell's brigade, if neceſſary. General Maxwell's brigade was therefore held in a cloſed column, in order to give the neceſſary ſupport to the attacking party, or to form a line to oppoſe any force which might attempt to attack us in our front or rear. Colonel Dubois, with the right flanking diviſion of the army conſiſting of two hundred and fifty men, was advanced on the right of general Poor; and colonel Ogden, with the left flanking diviſion of the army conſiſting of two hundred and fifty more, was poſted near the river, with directions as ſoon as the attack began to advance along the ſide of the river and gain the enemy's right, to prevent their eſcaping acroſs the Cayuga. General Poor moved on to gain the hill, and general Clinton followed as directed; but they were for ſome time delayed by a moraſs. General Poor had however arrived near the foot of the hill, when the cannonading began in front of their works; but upon attempting to aſcend it, found a large body of the enemy poſted there, who began a fire upon him, but he formed his troops, charged with bayonets, and ſometimes fired upon them advancing. They retreated from tree to tree, and kept up an inceſſant fire until he gained the ſummit of the hill with his troops. General Clinton detached two regiments to reinforce general Poor, and followed himſelf with the reſidue of the brigade as directed. The two regiments arrived juſt before he gained the ſummit of the hill, and prevented the enemy from turning his right, which they were then attempting. Our cannonade in front, and I doubt not the unexpected fire from general Poor on the enemy's left, occaſioned them inſtantly to abandon their works in the utmoſt confuſion; they fled in the greateſt diſorder, leaving eleven of their Indian warriors and one female dead on the ground, with a great number of packs, blankets, arms, camp equipage, and a variety of their jewels, ſome of which are of conſiderable value. We took two priſoners, one a tory, the other an enliſted negro in one of the tory companies. They both agree that there were five companies of whites, and their main ſtrength conſiſting of the Indian warriors of ſeven nations, and that this was the place where they meant to make their principal oppoſition, and that they had been waiting here eight days. Both the Butlers, Brandt, and captain M'Donald were here, each having a ſeparate command. Brandt had been ſome time ſince ſlightly wounded in the foot, but is recovered. They further ſay, they ſent off their wounded on horſeback, many of them no doubt were carried off in canoes, and many of their dead muſt have been carried off or concealed, as we found many bloody packs, coats, ſhirts, and blankets, and, in ſhort, every appearance not only of havoc but of fright and confuſion was left behind them. The main army purſued them about a mile, and the light corps about three; but fear had given them too great ſpeed to be overtaken. Our loſs was 3 killed and 39 wounded, principally of general Poor's brigade; among the latter were major Titcomb, captain Cloyſe and lieutenant M'Aulay, all badly; the latter is ſince dead. The other two it is hoped will ſurvive. The reſidue are principally ſlightly wounded. General Poor, his officers and men, deſerve the higheſt praiſe for their intrepidity and ſoldierly conduct; as do colonel Proctor, and the whole artillery corps. Major Parr and the rifle corps alſo diſtinguiſhed themſelves by their great vigilance and ſpirited conduct. In ſhort, every officer and ſoldier conducted in a moſt ſoldierly manner; and thoſe who were not immediately in the engagement, manifeſted their eagerneſs for the combat in every action. Indeed the conduct of the whole army was truly pleaſing, and gave the moſt ſtriking evidence that no equal number of troops can oppoſe their progreſs. I cannot help ſaying that the diſpoſition of the enemy's troops and the conſtruction of their works would have done honour to much greater officers than the unprincipled wretches who commanded them. The numbers of the enemy cannot be aſcertained, but from the extent of their works and the poſts they occupied, they muſt have been numerous.

"This place, in Engliſh called Newtown, is a large ſcattered ſettlement, abounding with extenſive fields of the beſt corn and beans, ſo extenſive and numerous as to keep the whole army this day induſtriouſly employed in deſtroying, and the buſineſs yet unfiniſhed. From the vaſt quantity of corn planted at this place and its vicinities, I conclude it to have been deſigned as their principal magazine. Excluſive of this town, which contained about twenty houſes, generals Clinton and Poor on their yeſterday's rout fell in with another of thirty buildings, about two miles to the eaſt of this, which is alſo deſtroyed. The number of Indian towns deſtroyed ſince the commencement of the expedition, including thoſe burnt by general Clinton previous to the junction, is I think fourteen, ſome of them conſiderable, others inconſiderable.

"I have the honour to ſubſcribe myſelf with particular eſteem, dear general,

"Very much your humble ſervant,
"JOHN SULLIVAN.

Publiſhed by order of congreſs,
CHARLES THOMSON, ſecretary.

Laſt Sunday was ſent into this port, by the ſhip General Pickering, belonging to Boſton, the privateer brig Hope, of 14 carriage guns, commanded by capt. Hinde. The ſame day arrived the ſhip Molly, capt. Matthiſon, with 160 Heſſian officers and privates on board, bound to Halifax, taken by the ſchooner Mars, capt. Taylor, with the ſloop Comet, capt. Decator, in ſight.

CHARLES-TOWN, *South Carolina, Sept.* 4.

Late laſt night the lieutenant of marines of the armed brig Bellona, came up to town with intelligence of his excellency count d'Eſtaing's fleet, conſiſting of 25 ſail of the line, 20 frigates and 3 courvettes or ſloops, being at anchor on Thurſday noon, in 14 fathom water, off Tybee; on board the fleet are 5000 land forces. A frigate had been diſpatched with an expreſs to this town; it is imagined the high wind we had on Thurſday night has occaſioned her ſtanding off; but as the weather is now favourable, ſhe is hourly looked for. Pilots are now going to the count. This great and unexpected aid cannot fail giving the higheſt ſatisfaction to every real friend of America, and affords the happy proſpect of ſoon ſeeing the virtuous few of our ſiſter ſtate of Georgia reinſtated in their poſſeſſions, and a ſpeedy ſtop being put to the ravages of our haughty invaders.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, Aug. 2, 1779.

RESOLVED, That no private act ſhall paſs this houſe upon any petition whatever, unleſs notice is given by the petitioner or petitioners in ſome gazette printed in this ſtate eight ſucceſſive weeks, and by advertiſing at the court-houſe of the county where ſuch petitioner or petitioners reſide, at leaſt eight weeks before the ſeſſion of aſſembly to which application is made, that a petition is intended to be preferred, mentioning in ſuch notice the ſubſtance of ſuch petition, and evidence of the notice be produced upon hearing ſuch petition.

By order, J. DUCKETT, cl. ho. del.

PORT-TOBACCO RACES.

TO be run for, on the 12th of this inſtant, October, over the courſe near this city, the three mile heats, a purſe of THREE HUNDRED and SEVENTY-FIVE POUNDS, free for any horſe, mare, or gelding; aged to carry 126 pounds, and fall agreeable to the rules of racing. On the day following will be run for, over the ſame courſe, the two mile heats, a purſe of ONE HUNDRED and FIFTY POUNDS, free for any horſe, mare, or gelding, carrying weight for ſize, 126 the ſtandard, and riſe and fall agreeable to the rules of racing. Any horſe winning two clear heats either day to be entitled to the purſe, the winning horſe the preceding day to be excepted. Any horſe running for either purſe to be entered with Thomas Reeder in Port-Tobacco, two days before the day of running, otherwiſe to pay double entrance at the poſt; non-ſubſcribers to pay ſixty dollars the firſt day and forty dollars the ſecond day; ſubſcribers to pay half entrance each day. Proper judges will be appointed to determine all matters of diſpute agreeable to the rules of racing. The horſes to ſtart each day at 12 o'clock preciſely.

Benedict, September 22, 1779.

THE ſubſcriber has from ſeven to ten thouſand weight of freſh beef for ſale, which he will engage to deliver at Benedict any time between this and the tenth of November, where there are proper houſes and other conveniences for ſalting and curing the ſame. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe may know the terms, by applying to Mr. Joſeph Anderſon, merchant, Benedict.

CHARLES S. SMITH.

September 10, 1779.

FOR SALE,

TWO tracts of land in the commonwealth of Virginia, one of them laying in the county of Berkley, joining the lands of Messrs. Rutherford, Mourse, and Washington, containing 643 acres, without improvements. This tract lays in an agreeable neighbourhood, and is of the best quality. Captain Thomas Rutherford, who lives adjoining, will show the land, and is empowered to sell it. The other tract lays in Loudoun county, on the east side of the Blue-Ridge, near Snickers-Gap, contains about 2500 acres. This land produces fine crops of Indian corn and small grain of every kind, is well watered, some improved meadow, and a large quantity of land capable of being made into meadow. It would be unnecessary here to give a further description of these lands, as no doubt the purchaser would chuse to see them. Mr. Snickers, or Mr. Sanford, who lives on the land, will show this last mentioned tract, and I will attend myself on the premises, the 30th day of November next, to treat with any gentleman disposed to purchase, or at any time before or after at my own house in Westmoreland county, Virginia.

JOHN AUG. WASHINGTON.

THREE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD.

September 25, 1779.

RAN away from the subscriber, on the 23d instant, living near Northampton furnace, about 11 miles from Baltimore-Town, a likely black NEGRO man, named SIMON, about 36 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 10 inches high, well made, by trade a blacksmith; had on when he went away, a new tow linen shirt and trousers much worn, a blue broad-cloth waistcoat much worn, one old linsey ditto, a pair of shoes lately soaled and nailed in the heels, an old hat, if any other cloaths they are unknown, but it is suspected that he will get other cloaths and endeavour to make his escape, as he is a very artful fellow. Whoever takes up and secures the said negro, so that his master may get him again, shall have if taken within, or 10 miles from home, twenty-five pounds; if 20 miles, fifty pounds; if out of the county, one hundred and fifty pounds; if out of the state the above reward, and reasonable charges if brought home, paid by

w4 CHARLES TOWSON.

Montgomery county, Sept. 14, 1779.

ON Thursday the 14th day of October (if fair, if not the next fair day) will be SOLD on the premises, the LAND and PLANTATION whereon I now live, containing 350 acres, upwards of 200 of which are cleared and in good farming order, about 18 acres of meadow now in grass and more may be made, a considerable part of the meadow is now watered at pleasure. This land lies about 16 miles above George-Town, is level, well wooded and watered, and is for the size as compleat a farm as any in the county. The improvements are, a convenient brick house, kitchen, barn, still-house, mill-house, and horse-mill, which is very convenient for chopping or grinding of grain, and the best cider mill in the state. The other improvements are many and very convenient. There are three English stills, which will be sold either with or without the land. Likewise at the same time will be sold some negroes, a very good waggon and gears almost new, a quantity of whiskey and wheat, and a considerable stock of horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs, and many other articles.

JAMES PERRY.

N. B. Should the purchaser want a larger quantity of land, there is now for sale a valuable well improved plantation, containing 500 acres, which very conveniently joins on the above land. These two plantations would make a most compleat farm. 2 w3

ANY person that is master of the malting and brewing business, will meet with great encouragement in the neighbourhood of the subscriber, not only this year, but any year. He has a very convenient place to let, either from year to year, or a term of years. There is a dwelling house 26 feet square, with good plank floors above and below, a stone cellar under the house, 20 feet square, and convenient out houses. No one need apply, unless he can bring undoubted credentials of his good morals, and firm attachment to the glorious American cause. For further particulars apply to

BENJAMIN HALL, of Benjamin,

Living in Prince-George's county, near the place called the Governor's Bridge.

Dente quid horridus apro, quid valentius alvo?

THOUGH bred to physic and surgery, I have, for these six years past devoted and dedicated my whole time and attention to that part of surgery, which concerns the dentist's art; I observed, with regret, that no material instructions were to be derived from writers, who have touched (I think) but collaterally on the subject; therefore I endeavoured, for my own improvement, and the advantage of my country, to preserve the teeth, and regulate their growth, and to remove the multiplicity of disorders and deformities to which they are exposed. As the teeth serve for mastication, for the distinct articulation of sounds, and for ornament, their care and preservation are, perhaps, of more importance than is generally imagined. From an assiduous application and practice, I have a perfect knowledge and perception of the structure of the teeth, the anatomy and physiology of the teeth, and parts adjacent. The design of this advertisement is to offer my assistance, and inform the public, that the SCURVY in the gums, be it ever so bad, may be cured. I clean and scale the teeth, from that corrosive, tartarous, gritty substance, which impedes the gums from growing, infects the breath, and is one of the principal or primordial causes of the scurvy, which, if not timely prevented, eats away the gums, so that many peoples teeth fall out sound. I prevent teeth from growing rotten, keep such as are decayed from becoming worse, even to old age, make the gums grow firm up to the teeth, and restore and preserve their beauty. I fill up with gold, or lead, those that are hollow, so as to render them useful—it prevents the air getting into them, which aggravates the pain. Those who have had the misfortune of losing their teeth, may have natural teeth transplanted, from one person to another, which will remain as firm in the jaw (without any ligament) as if they originally grew there. Natural teeth grafted on old stumps; also artificial teeth, from a single tooth to a compleat set, which can be made and fixed in with the greatest exactness and nicety, without pain or the least inconvenience, so that they may eat, drink, or sleep with them in their mouths, as natural ones, from which they cannot be discovered by the sharpest eye. I extract teeth and stumps after the best and easiest methods, be they ever so deeply situated in the jaw. I beg to be consulted in all the disorders of the teeth, gums, sockets, ulcers, cancers, abscesses, fistulas, suppurations and inflammations in the gums, which are more or less of a malignant nature. My DENTIFRICE, I beg leave to recommend to the public, which I have found to be greatly superior, not only in elegance but also in efficacy, to any thing hitherto made use of for the teeth and gums. 'Tis quite free from any corrosive preparation, will restore the gums to their pristine state, will prevent the tooth-ach, and render the breath delicately sweet, (if the tartarous substance is off the teeth) and will remedy all those disorders that are the consequence of scorbutic gums. I think it necessary to add also, for the sake of undissembled truth, that it is the best DENTIFRICE I ever knew. It preserves the teeth and gums, keeps the teeth white and beautiful, without in the least impairing the enamel. It was communicated to me by Dr. *John Baker*, and may be always procured at my residence, in Charles county, near Port-Tobacco. I propose to be in the city of Annapolis, on the 22th day of October, where, perhaps, I may stay a month.

2 B. FENDALL.

To be SOLD at the PRINTING-OFFICE,

LAWS passed last Session of Assembly, and VOTES and PROCEEDINGS of the SENATE and HOUSE of DELEGATES.

Likewise ALMANACKS for the year of our Lord 1780. 2

NOTICE is hereby given, that the corporation of the city of Annapolis intends to petition the next General Assembly for a law to pass enabling them to lay a further assessment on all property, and to regulate ordinaries, within the said city, and to dispose of TEMPLE and DEAN streets, now stopped up and useless to the inhabitants. 6

Annapolis, September 25, 1779.

MR. THOMAS BROOKE HODGKIN being empowered to collect the accounts due the late partnership of KENNEDY and WALLACE, and the estate of Dr. BENJAMIN KENNEDY; all persons indebted to, and those having claims against, them, will please call upon him for a settlement immediately.

w3 MICHAEL WALLACE.

THERE is at the plantation of John Rogers, in Prince-George's county, a small dark bay MARE, about 13 hands high, docked, and branded on the near buttock; it appears to be about 5 years old. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges. 2 w3

Annapolis, September 9, 1779.

THE subscriber wants a number of COARSE SHOES made, for which good wages will be given; shoemakers may take them out in quantities.

A CURRIER will meet with encouragement by applying to

WILLIAM GOLDSMITH.

Of whom a good price may be had for good shoe thread. 4

September 1, 1779.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN away last night, an English convict servant man named JOHN JAMES, by trade a butcher; he is about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, stout and strong made, has a remarkable black beard, and always appears to be short winded when at any violent exercise; had on and took with him a brown hersey jacket, hemp linen shirts and trousers, a red great coat and a duffil blanket, has been five years in this country, and has near two to serve. Whoever apprehends the said servant, and secures him so that his master shall get him again, shall receive the above reward besides what the law allows, and if brought home all reasonable charges paid by the subscriber, living in Kent county Maryland.

w4 ISAAC PERKINS.

N. B. Good encouragement for 3 or 4 good sailors will be given by 3 I. P.

ANNAPOLIS RACES.

September 10, 1779.

To be run for, on the 5th of October next, over the course near this city, the four mile heats,

A PURSE of ONE THOUSAND POUNDS, free for any horse, mare or gelding; aged to carry 133 pounds, six years old to carry 126, five years old to carry 119, and four years old 112.

On the day following will be run for, over the same course, the three mile heats,

A PURSE of FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS, free for any horse, mare or gelding, under six years old; five years old to carry 119 pounds, four years old 112, and three years old 100 pounds.

On the third day will be run for, the two mile heats,

A PURSE of THREE HUNDRED and SEVENTY-FIVE POUNDS, free for any horse, mare or gelding, under five years old, four years old to carry 112, three years old to carry 100.

Any horse winning two clear heats either day to be entitled to the purse; the winning horse each preceding day to be excepted. Any horse running for either purse to be entered with Mr. George Mann, two days before the day of running, otherwise to pay double entrance at the post; non-subscribers to pay 60 dollars the first day, second day 30 dollars, third day 20 dollars. Subscribers to pay half entrance each day. Proper judges will be appointed to determine all matters of dispute, agreeable to the rules of racing.

The horses to start each day at 11 o'clock precisely. 4

RAN away from the subscriber, on the 12th day of this instant, September, a convict servant man named WILLIAM LAVERY, a sailor by trade, about five feet six inches high, born in the west of England and talks much in that country dialect; short black hair tied behind; he is a well made fellow, though he rocks in his walk, eye-brows large and black, his complexion rather fair than otherwise; had on when he went away a light coloured mixed broad-cloth coat turned, with pockets in the inside, a narrow striped French cloth jacket with lapels, white cotton breeches, white thread stockings, an old round hat bound round the edge with binding, black leather pumps with long quarters; he took with him a brown country linen shirt, one of the sleeves white, and white wristbands, one white linen sheeting ditto. Whoever apprehends and secures the said William Lavery, so that he may be had again, shall receive thirty-seven pounds ten shillings if taken up in town or from the city of Annapolis, if within that distance twenty pounds, paid by

w3 RICHARD BURLAND.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the Post-Office in Church-Street.